

LATE FOREIGN ITEMS!

COPENHAGEN, March 4.—The Crown Princess of Denmark has been delivered of a son.

LONDON, March 3.—Savages captured and carried away with them the British Vice-Consul at Rio Del Rey, in the Camaron's country, Africa. A gunboat has been sent to rescue him.

BUCHAREST, March 3.—General Briamont, who has been experimenting in Belgium with the explosive melinite, has advised the Roumanian Government to suspend labor on the defensive works around Bucharest, as it will be necessary to devise new plans to withstand the new explosive.

LONDON, March 3.—In the suit for libel brought by Dr. Bird, family physician of Lady Colin Campbell, against Dr. Belderman, editor of *Life*, for publishing an article imputing to Dr. Bird improper relations with his patient, the defendant was yesterday convicted.

A telegram from Shanghai says that China has ceded to Germany, thus, one of a group of islands off the eastern coast of China, opposite the estuary of Tsien Tang Kiang. Numerous towns and villages are on the island. The capital being Ting Hai, near the south coast.

WINNIPEG, March 3d.—The Northern Pacific and Grand Trunk are said to have just concluded an agreement by which the former builds a line from Crookston to the boundary, where the Grand Trunk meets it with another extension via Winnipeg to Portage La Prairie, there connecting with the Manitoba Northwestern, which runs within two hundred miles of Prince Albert. The Grand Trunk is said to have purchased the last-named road.

LONDON, March 3.—The first Queen's jubilee drawing room was held to-day in Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty is in the enjoyment of fine health and spirit. She took an hour's drive before the time appointed for the event. The attendance was greater than at any preceding affair of the kind during her long reign as Queen. The number of debutantes was unprecedented. The weather was fine, and crowds that congregated in the parks and roadways around the palace numbered many thousands. Court officials say the reception was the most brilliant they ever attended.

BOSTON, March 3.—The Bell Telephone Company filed a motion in the United States Circuit Court to-day regarding the Government's suits to break its patents. The company asks leave, in addition to filing a demurrer to the suit, to plead as facts that decisions have already been given in other suits which involved the same question as those now raised. It represents to the Court that the questions which it desires to raise by such plea are closely allied to those which would be raised by the demurrer, and that much time, expense and labor will be saved by presenting the facts and arguing at the same time. The motion then continues: "The bill refers to and purports to state the contents of certain written communications from the Commissioner of Patents to Elisha Gray, dated February 19, 1876, and February 25, 1876, but does not make copies of them a part of the bill. This respondent denies and is advised that it should present copies thereof to the Court by plea, because the legal effect thereof cannot be otherwise ascertained." It further represents that the voluminous records of the litigation are now before the Supreme Court on appeal and held under advisement and that it would be indecorous and contrary to the usages of courts of equity to retry any questions pending before the Supreme Court.

LONDON, March 4.—News has been received of the capture by the Portuguese of the fortress commanding the Bay of Tungi and the occupation of the bay. Mamarel, a petty native chief, is at the head of the uprising on the Mozambique mainland against Portuguese authority. The insurgents are looting the shores. It is not thought that there is any danger to life or property on the island of Mozambique, on which the capital of the country is situated. British cruisers have arrived at the capital to protect English subjects and interests.

LONDON, March 4.—The Governor of Mozambique telegraphs that Portuguese gunboats remain at Tungi to assist in the work of installing the Portuguese Government in authority there. He says the Portuguese bombarded the fortress at Tungi before capturing it, and burnt the village of Massingane.

The Government Irish bill provides that a special jury list, drawn from classes that are not liable to intimidation, shall be formed for the trial of special offenses.

BERLIN, March 3.—The new German Reichstag opened to-day. The Emperor's speech was read from the throne. In it he says he is gratified at the benevolent disposition the Pope has shown toward the Empire. The foreign policy of the Empire is continually directed to the maintenance of peace with all powers, and especially with Germany's neighbors. The foreign relations of the Government are the same as when the last Reichstag was opened. If the present Reichstag, without hesitation or division, gives unanimous expressions to the resolve that the nation will put forth its full strength and in full canopy now and at all times against any attack upon our frontiers, such resolution, even before carried out, will materially strengthen the guarantees of peace and remove the doubts which the late parliamentary debates may have inspired. The Emperor feels assured that the Reichstag, by

its resolutions, will place the Federal Government's national policy on a safe basis, and derives from this conviction the confident hope that God will bless his efforts to preserve the peace and security of Germany. The same bills that were submitted to the previous Reichstag will again be offered, creating new sources of revenue, and a reform of the method of taxation is urged.

Two hundred and fifty members were present at the opening of the session. Among these were most of the National Liberals, including Von Bennigsen and Miquel. Prince Louis of Bavaria occupied a seat in the Imperial box. The members of the Prussian Bundestag entered the Chamber, headed by Von Boetticher, representative of the Chancellor, who read the Emperor's speech. The concluding passages of the speech, referring to Germany's peaceful policy and appealing to the Reichstag for unanimity in voting the Army bill was repeatedly interrupted by cheers. When the reading concluded Count Lerinchenfeld proposed three cheers for the Emperor, and led the demonstration in response.

Odds and Ends

Mr. William Nossin has constructed a new turbine, to be used in swift running rivers. This turbine is an improvement upon the old-fashioned floating water-mill. The guide and wheel are suspended from pontoons, and motion is transmitted to an over head lay shaft by a pitch chain. One of these turbines is moored in the Danube near the Rotunda, and is used for driving a dynamo machine which charges accumulators.—*Industries*.

The Manufacturers' *Gazette* recommends using the dust from a grind stone for grinding brass valves.

The microphone is now being used in Germany for the purpose of detecting the loss of water through leakage in town mains.

The regulations against commercial travelers in Alabama are to be made more stringent. A new law which went into effect January 1st, retains the tax of \$10 fixed by the old law, but adds a provision that all contracts made by traveling agents who have not paid the license tax shall be void as to both of the parties thereto. This provision is intended to enforce payment of the tax, which has hitherto been evaded in a large number of cases.

Value of Land in London.

It has been ascertained, with regard to the Imperial Institute, that the site of about five acres recently secured for the new Admiralty and War Offices is valued at £820,000, or rather over £160,000 per acre; that now vacant in Charles street, opposite the India Office, is less than an acre and would cost at least £125,000; probably another acre might be secured by private contract, so that the value of a limited site in this position would not be less than £250,000.

It has been suggested that a single acre not far from Charing Cross might be obtained for £221,000. Two and a half acres on the Thames embankment have been offered for £400,000, and it is stated that six acres may be procured from Christ's Hospital at £600,000. Another good central position has been suggested, consisting of two and a half acres, which has been valued at £668,000.

Even if a reduced price were accepted, no site in that direction is to be had for less than a quarter of a million. This explanation is offered for falling back on the site which belongs to the commissioners of the exhibition of 1881.

A Present of a Corpse.

At a dinner-party Dr. Paget, of Cambridge, told a story which is put on record as follows:—"About twenty-five years ago a lone farmhouse in Essex was broken into one night by four burglars with blackened or masked faces, and their shoes under-tied with hay. Unluckily for them, in breaking through the scullery, they upset a plate rack. The clatter awoke old Farmer Parry, then about 70 years of age. He seized his double-barrelled gun, faced the intruders at the top of the broad staircase, and shot the foremost in the heart, stone dead in a moment. On the other three drawing back, he called out, 'Come on, my lads; I've got another barrel for ye.' But they made a precipitate retreat, leaving the dead body of their comrade on the kitchen table. Two days afterwards Dr. Paget got a note in the evening from the old man's son-in-law, in these words:—

'Dear Sir,—Mr. Parry says that if you'd like to have a body I can send it him to-morrow in a horse and cart wherever you wish.' Professor Clark would have nothing to do with it, as the anatomical rooms had already—in 1834—been broken into by a mob in search of a body. But his demonstrator was very zealous, and so he accepted the gift, and at once set to work upon it. Two days after the reception of the body, there arrived a blackguard, barglar-looking man at the anatomical door, which was opened by the Cambridge 'Stirling' man of the day—a clever, prompt, resolute man of the same kidney. 'Well, friend, what do you want here?' 'You got a dead man two days ago from Farmer Parry?' 'Oh, yes, all right; we've got him.' 'I'm his brother, and want to see him.' 'But you can't see him.' 'But, with a sidelong, threatening, murderous scowl, I must see him, and shall see him.' 'My good fellow, it is impossible! He's in an awful state by this time. He would turn your stomach. The look of him would haunt you all your days.' 'But, a good deal mollified, I must see him some time.' 'Oh, surely, surely! Come back again in six weeks, and—you shall see his skeleton.'

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